

or those of the producing nations, I think we should confine exportations to home bottoms or to those nations having treaties with us. Our exportations are heavy, and would nourish a great force of our own, or be a tempting price to the nation to whom we should offer a participation of it in exchange for free access to all their possessions. (To George Washington, written in Paris, 1788. F. V., 58.)

COMMERCE.—Instead of embarrassing commerce under piles of regulating laws, duties and prohibitions, could it be relieved of all its shackles in all parts of the world, could every country be employed in producing that which nature has best fitted it to produce, and each be free to exchange with others mutual surpluses for mutual wants, the greatest mass possible would then be produced of those things which contribute to human life and human happiness; the numbers of mankind would be increased and their condition bettered.

Would even a single nation begin with the United States this system of free commerce, it would be advisable to begin it with that nation, since it is one by one only that it can extend to all. Where the circumstances of either party render it expedient to levy a revenue, by way of import, on commerce, its freedom might be modified in that particular by mutual and equivalent measures, preserving it entire in all others. (From a Report on the Commerce of the United States, 1793. F. VI., 480.)

COMMERCE.—Where a nation imposes high duties on our productions or prohibits them altogether, it may be proper for us to do the same by theirs; first burdening or excluding those productions which they bring here in competition with our own of the same kind; selecting next such manufactures as we take from them in greatest quantity, and which, at the same time ;we could the soonest furnish to ourselves or obtain from other countries; imposing on them duties lighter at first, but heavier and heavier afterwards, as other channels of supply open. Such eludes having the effect of indirect encouragement to domestic manufactures of the same kind, may induce the manufacturer to come himself into these States, where cheaper subsistence,